

Replace the paragraph [0048] beginning at page 10, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--**Figures 14A-14C** show the sequence alignments of hypothermophilic α -amylases, as set forth in Example 8. Figures 14A-1 and A-2 show an alignments of amylase sequences. SEQ ID NO.:82 = an environmental clone; pyro = *Pyrococcus sp.* (SEQ ID NO:313) (strain:KOD1), Tachibana, Y., Mendez, L., Takagi, M. and Imanaka, T., J Ferment Bioeng. 82:224-232, 1996; pyro2 = *Pyrococcus furiosus* (SEQ ID NO:314), Appl. Environ. Microbiol. 63 (9):3569-3576, 1997; Thermo = *Thermococcus sp.* (SEQ ID NO:315); Thermo2 = *Thermococcus hydrothermalis* (SEQ ID NO:316), Leveque, E. *et al.* Patent: France 98.05655 05-MAY-1998, unpublished; and a consensus sequence (SEQ ID NO:317). Figures 14B-1 to 14B-3 show the amino acid sequence alignment of identified sequences: SEQ ID NO.:82; pyro (SEQ ID NO:313); SEQ ID NO.:74; thermo2 (SEQ ID NO:316); SEQ ID NO.:76; SEQ ID NO:78; SEQ ID NO.:84; SEQ ID NO.:86; SEQ ID NO.:80; thermo (SEQ ID NO:315); pyro2 (SEQ ID NO:314); clone A (SEQ ID NO:318); and a consensus sequence (SEQ ID NO:319). Figures 14C-1 to 14C-6 show the nucleic acid sequence alignment corresponding to the polypeptide sequence of Figures 5 and 6. SEQ ID NO.:81; SEQ ID NO.:75; SEQ ID NO.:77; SEQ ID NO.:83; SEQ ID NO.:85; SEQ ID NO.:79; clone A; and SEQ ID NO.:73.--

Replace the paragraph [0050] beginning at page 10, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--**Figures 16A-16MMMM** are the sequences of the invention.--

In the drawings:

Substitute the enclosed 116 sheets of formal drawings filed herewith for the original informal drawings filed with the instant application.